



# **CROSSTALK**

2000-02

## **OFFICE OF SECURITY AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS**

### **“NO-NOTICE” EXERCISE PROGRAM**

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#### ***SUMMARY***

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The Office of Security and Emergency Operations (SO) recently conducted several “No-Notice” performance exercises at selected DOE facilities. Their purpose was to exercise protective force response skills. We are continuing this program by expanding the scenarios, extending participation to more sites, and incorporating the “lessons learned” from the initial exercises. A “Crosstalk” will be provided following each exercise series.

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#### ***BACKGROUND***

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“No-Notice” exercises of protective force functions provide insight about facility readiness and the protective force capability to respond to various situations. A team was sent to visit three weapons-complex sites where various scenarios were enacted to exercise responses, such as: personnel identification and access to facilities; response to terrorist activities; and vehicle observance/entry. The exercises were conducted on a no-fault, non-attribution basis. Instead of trying to identify formal “findings” resulting from the exercises, the team noted and documented issues and “lessons learned” that could be incorporated into a complex-wide “Crosstalk” paper and form the basis for an expanded “No Notice” exercise program.

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#### ***LESSONS LEARNED and OBSERVATIONS***

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- Safety is paramount at all times.
- Protective force members will react as if it is a “real world” situation and will treat the exercise scenarios with ultimate seriousness.

- All exercise results are no-fault, non-attribution.
- A senior protective force “Trusted Agent” at the site is essential; all scenarios and exercise parameters must be reviewed with that person prior to execution.
- Prior knowledge of exercise timing and execution will be limited to the site Safeguards and Security Director and “Trusted Agent” ONLY to prevent compromise of the exercise.
- The word of “No-Notice” exercises will travel quickly.
- Protective force personnel checked the badges of those “No-Notice” team members less closely when in the presence of, or accompanied by, personnel with facility badges.
- Sites do not provide sufficient periodic refresher training sessions on internal response procedures.

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## ***RECOMMENDATIONS***

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### **FOR SITE PROTECTIVE FORCE ORGANIZATIONS**

- Site Safeguards and Security Directors and site protective force “trusted agents” will ensure that all personnel understand the purpose and objectives of the “No Notice” program and that:
  - Safety is paramount.
  - Exercise timing and execution information is restricted.
  - Exercises are no-fault, non-attribution.
  - Exercise “lessons learned” are documented in complex-wide “Crosstalk Papers”.
- Sites need to review and practice procedures for assessment of suspicious vehicles.
- Sites should review their procedures for determining what vehicles will, and will not be allowed to enter the sally port.
- Review of badge checking procedures should be accomplished periodically with emphasis on consistency...the badges of ALL personnel must be checked closely regardless of badge origination/place of issue.